

The continuing resolution vote gives us the first real opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to cutting spending. The debt limit will be another opportunity for this Congress to cut spending. And as I think the gentleman knows, I have said repeatedly that we will not accept an increase in the debt limit without serious spending cuts and reforms, and I look forward to joining with the gentleman debate on this House floor. Hopefully we can have the Senate join us, as well as the President, towards that end.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

It's my understanding, from the gentleman's response, that if in the eyes of you or Mr. BOEHNER or your side of the aisle serious spending cuts have not been effected, that you would oppose the extension of the debt limit.

Is that what I hear you saying?

Mr. CANTOR. I would say to the gentleman this: We have been charged with an obligation by the people of this country to get our fiscal house in order. We intend to be very deliberate and focused on cutting spending while making sure we are doing all we can to grow the economy and the private-sector jobs. It is our intent to prove that this House and this Congress—hopefully Leader REID will follow suit—will deliver on that commitment.

The public, as the gentleman knows all too well, is tired of business as usual. They don't want to see this country continue to incur debt as it has in the past without some indication that things are changing, without some indication that serious spending cuts have been implemented and reforms effected, and that will be our intent.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for that response. And I hate to keep pressing him, but if his hopes are not realized—and I don't know the answer as to whether they will be, but at some point in time we will be confronted with an alternative of whatever the facts may be with respect to what we are able to pass through this House, the Senate, and get signed by the President, we will be confronted with the consequences of our past behavior, and I underline “our,” o-u-r, spending that we have incurred. And I don't want to go through the entire debate that you and I always go through, so I won't do it, but we will be confronted with, as the Speaker says, an adult moment as to whether or not we will, in light of the consequences of past behavior, take actions necessary to preclude America from defaulting on its debts. And I simply ask the gentleman, will we have the opportunity to have an up-or-down vote on that issue under the circumstances where we have reached, as the gentleman points out—we don't know the exact date—the extent of present authority?

Mr. CANTOR. I would say to the gentleman, Mr. Speaker, that the vote on the debt limit comes within the context of our demonstrating a commitment to cut spending, to effect re-

forms. And the President as well as the gentleman's side here in this House have said both that they would like to see and join us in cutting spending. This debt-limit vote comes in the context of all that we are going to be able to do over the next several months. And we've got to be demonstrating that or frankly the public will not want us to accept any notion that we're going to continue business as usual unless we've demonstrated that things are changing. That's why I continue to say to the gentleman that we will not accept an increase in the debt limit without serious spending cuts and reforms.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman.

□ 1140

#### HOUR OF MEETING ON MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2011

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon on Monday next for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

#### PROVIDING FOR A JOINT SESSION OF CONGRESS TO RECEIVE A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I send to the desk a privileged concurrent resolution and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the concurrent resolution, as follows:

H. CON. RES. 10

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring),*

That the two Houses of Congress assemble in the Hall of the House of Representatives on Tuesday, January 25, 2011, at 9 p.m., for the purpose of receiving such communication as the President of the United States shall be pleased to make to them.

The concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### FAREWELL TO THE PAGES

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today we will be saying farewell to the pages who have served this House so well. They are standing in the back of the Chamber here now. We wish to thank you for your service.

I've been on the Page Board for about 30 years. Speaker Tip O'Neill appointed me to that board, and this has been a tremendous group of pages. You've worked hard, you've worked well, and you've worked honorably.

You've seen history. You've seen a change of party control of this House.

You've seen our joys and our sorrows. You witnessed the sorrow we all experienced and you experienced when a Member of this House was attacked back in her district.

There is a program called Close Up where people come to Washington, people your age, to observe the Congress, and they learn a lot. It's a great program. But no one sees the Congress as close up as you do. And we appreciate the fact that you recognize that as a great responsibility and a great honor, and you will go back home and tell others about this Congress.

I think you can tell them that everyone who serves in this Congress, even though we may have differences—sometimes very sharp differences—the one thing that does bind us together is that everyone here in this Congress loves this country.

Go back and tell them that we are imperfect people trying to make a more perfect Republic.

I yield, Mr. Speaker, to my colleague on the Page Board, the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP).

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Thank you, Mr. KILDEE. I appreciate it.

Mr. Speaker, the young men and women who are standing behind the bar and at the back of our Chamber here today are great young men and women who have served us well over this past semester. We appreciate you. Both Ms. Keating and Ms. Sampson have said this is probably the best behaved group of pages we've ever had. I don't know if you want to take it further than that, but you have done a great job and we appreciate you.

Mr. KILDEE. I want to thank Mr. BISHOP and Ms. FOXX, who also served on this committee. We have enjoyed our work, and you've made our work very enjoyable.

#### DEPARTURE CEREMONY PAGE NAMES FALL CLASS OF 2010

Haley Alderete  
Carissa A. Almendarez  
Alexandra Baker  
Shraddha Batra  
Bethany Blakeman  
Christopher Michael Tydingco Borja  
Derek Kristopher Bowdle  
Taylor Brooks  
Hunter Layne Chapman  
Fernando Chavez, Jr.  
Josilyn Chowen  
Joseph Cortes  
Nicholas Dellasanta  
Hannah Elizabeth Dillman  
Dominé Ezechukwu  
Melissa Lynn Finno  
Megan Fleming  
Gerardo Flores  
Ashley Nicole Flowers  
Hector Javier Garcia  
Derek Gartee  
Megan Greeley  
Kallie A. Hargrove  
Kaithlin Elaine Hinojosa  
Kathryn Elizabeth Hopper  
Peter Alex Kanjorski  
John D. Kohler  
Ra'Nisa Kyles  
Olga Lefebvre  
Josiah Lippincott  
Schaeffer Mallory  
Gomez J. Martin